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CLAIMS

- 1. A radio communication apparatus comprising:
- a decoder for performing decoding processing on receive data every decoding unit;
- a judging unit for judging the presence or absence of errors in decoded receive data every transmission unit;

an updater for updating a reference value of a value indicating reception quality according to said presence or absence of errors; and

a generator for generating a transmission power control bit according to the result of comparison of an updated reference value and a value indicating measured reception quality;

wherein said updater, when an error is detected, increments said reference value a predetermined number of times within a decoding unit.

- 2. The radio communication apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said updater increments said reference value by a predetermined increment width only when an error is first detected within a decoding unit.
- 3. The radio communication apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising a counter for counting the number of errors within a decoding unit; wherein said updater, when an error is not detected, decrements a reference value by a decrement width that is in accordance with the number of errors counted by said counter.

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- 4. The radio communication apparatus according to claim
- 3, wherein said updater increases the decrement width proportionately as the number of errors increases.

5. A communication terminal apparatus incorporating a radio communication apparatus, said radio communication apparatus comprising:

a decoder for performing decoding processing on receive data every decoding unit;

a judging unit for judging the presence or absence of errors in decoded receive data every transmission unit;

an updater for updating a reference value of a value indicating reception quality according to said presence or absence of errors; and

a generator for generating a transmission power control bit according to the result of comparison of an updated reference value and a value indicating measured reception quality;

wherein said updater, when an error is detected, increments said reference value a predetermined number of times within a decoding unit.

6. A base station apparatus incorporating a radio communication apparatus, said radio communication apparatus comprising:

a decoder for performing decoding processing on receive data every decoding unit;

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a judging unit for judging the presence or absence of errors in decoded receive data every transmission unit;

an updater for updating a reference value of a value indicating reception quality according to said presence or absence of errors; and

a generator for generating a transmission power control bit according to the result of comparison of an updated reference value and a value indicating measured reception quality;

wherein said updater, when an error is detected, increments said reference value a predetermined number of times within a decoding unit.

- 7. A transmission power control method for performing decoding processing on receive data every decoding unit; judging the presence or absence of errors in decoded receive data every transmission unit; updating a reference value of a value indicating reception quality each time an error is detected up to a predetermined number of times within a decoding unit; and generating a transmission power control bit according to the result of comparison of an updated reference value and a value indicating measured reception quality.
- 25 8. The transmission power control method according to claim 7, wherein the number of errors within a decoding unit are counted, and if an error is not detected, a reference value is updated by being decremented by a

decrement width that is in accordance with said number of errors.